

## COL. INGERSOLL'S ORATORY

**BOOTH'S THEATRE CROWDED TO HEAR**

**Gaining Laughter and Applause by Hiding Things which Christians Hold Most Sacred—Testaments Distributed at the Door**

Col. Robert G. Ingersoll lectured on "The Gods" at Booth's Theatre last evening to an overcrowded audience, who listened for two hours and a quarter, alternately roaring with laughter and quiet with rapt attention.

of the lecture was the description of the cruelties of various ages, the ridicule and denunciations of most of their alleged attributes, and the argument that as one by one the gods of the past have disappeared, so must the God of the present meet the anseers of future time, and that the central proposition Col. Ingersoll grouped fund of anecdotes, a felicity of illustration, store of imagery, a thread of historic memories, and bursts of glowing descriptions that moved his hearers at will.

He always sat upon his throne for heaven for calling a silent speaker, demanded pay for calling a flag of truce. He spoke satirically of Dr. Talmage as a man of great judgment, but deficient in fancy. As for the prayers that are invoked for both Presidential Conventions, he said that if God helped both it would make the world a hell. He would not say that God would help either.

He could—against instructions. As for that Democratic Convention, he did not think there was any use praying to God for impossibilities. He denied that the God of Christians was the world beneficently, and said that when he asked how he would improve the world, he had replied that, just for a starter, he would make health catching instead of disease. He drew a startling picture of a country perished, so that

of rain, and naked, exposed to the elements, on the one hand, and the beneficence of a God who would bestow famine and destruction follow the want of water, while, on the other, the same time the storm ravaged the ocean. He piled ridicule upon the argument for design, and told a story of the father who wanted to impress his son with the beneficent design of God in the creation of the fish. "But," the boy said, "the well for the crane, but don't you think it is a little harsh on the fish?" He illustrated the church persecutions of science by saying that there is not in all the glittering heavens, a solitary star that

[illegible]

As to the sentence of God, all he could say was, "I don't know; but if there is, I cannot conceive of his doing the best he can in this world. If he has made men, women, and children, he has been no slaves, women should not have been oppressed for ages, children should not have been trampled upon, the innocent should not have been put to death, the guilty should not have been any injustice in the world. I believe the idea that the sufferings and inequalities in this world would be set right in the next world is a theory, and said the next Christian conception of the world is the selfishness of joy. He believed that if the world is to be made better, men must do it; for if

It is believed the time would come when the children would be able to take care of themselves, and with children whose cheeks shall be dimpled with perpetual joy. The way to this was to let the children take care of themselves and let the gods take care of themselves.

Col. Ingersoll was biased a little at one point but he received it with a good-natured laugh and he was not hurt. He was not hurt by himself. Before the lecture began a number of persons manifested their resentment to those engaged in the theatre, but the speaker was not refused by any of the distributors, who said they would make an attempt to counteract the effect of the lecture.

**One Boy Stabbed by Another.**

Charles Anderson, aged 18, of 131 Baltic street, Brooklyn, and William Wilson, aged 19, of 119 Harris street, Brooklyn, had a fight on Saturday afternoon at the former's home, during which Wilson was stabbed in the back by Anderson. The wound is not serious, but made the police list yesterday afternoon, when the two boys were taken to the hospital.

Wilson was then called in, and it was found that the wound was a very dangerous one. Wilson was removed to St. Peter's Hospital, where he lies in a critical condition. His assailant has been arrested.

Robert Clare, one of the assistant trainers at Lorillard's training stables near Islip, Long Island, was shot at on Friday by a bound boy named Gallagher.

The tug shop of James Hennessy was situated by fire north-west street, Williamsburgh, was destroyed by fire on Saturday night last.

A horse, valued at \$500, was burned partially injured. The harness extended to the factory was worth about \$250; the seat and living room furniture were also gutted, and the occupants were all burned out.

**The Meritque Fire Poisoning Case**

All the persons who were poisoned in Brooklyn on Friday evening from eating food made up as mustard of James Kernan, the Fulton Street confectioner,

Mr. Pettit of 179 Hennessy street, who are still slightly prostrated. Mr. Menninger, to whom a part of the trouble which caused so much trouble in the fashionable boarding house, was submitted for analysis, has found that it contained acetate of copper or verdigris.

**The Signal Office Prediction.**  
For the middle Atlantic States, stationary; followed by falling barometer, warmer southerly wind, partly cloudy weather, with occasional local rains, followed by clearing weather.

---

**JOTTINGS IN AND NEAR THE CITY.**

The Western Union Company yesterday laid a new cable from their building at Key street and Broadway to the new building at Wall street, through a four-inch iron pipe under ground.

Frank Mcethery while drunk and passing 65 Sher street yesterday, struck a young son of Mrs. Margaret Jane McEllen with his cane. The mother reprimanded him, and he stabbed her in the forehead with a pocket knife.

Rail road grocery clerks commonly work from 5 o'clock A. M. until 10 P. M. with an extension to midnight on Saturday, and from 6 until 12 A. M. on Sunday. Several of them met in McClellan Hall yesterday, and resolved to ask for a little more ease.

George Clark's Harry set lengths in half a mile. J. Weston Sidney lost a three-quarter race to William V. Cott's Lady Got the Gown by breaking, and Philip Collins Lady Driscoll got the beat of J. Ambrose's flesh in spirited mile contest.

Robert Winters of 342 West Thirty-ninth street was before the Jefferson Market Police Court yesterday.

Mr. Brady and her two little children were turned out of her room yesterday because she had no money to pay her rent. She went last evening to beg money of the father, Bernard Brady, in his saloon at Broadway and Thirty-ninth street. Brady struck her on the head with a bottle and pushed her through a window. Police man Neelan arrested Brady. Brady, severely cut, was taken to the New York Hospital.